

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 7749

Petition of Mariah Group LLC, d/b/a Rutland Plywood )  
Corporation ("RPC"), for a certificate of public good )  
pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248(j) authorizing the installation )  
and operation of a 400 kW biomass electric generation )  
facility located at RPC's production facility in Rutland )  
Town, Vermont )

Order entered: 12/6/2011

**ORDER RE SOUND ANALYSIS**

On September 26, 2011, the Public Service Board ("Board") granted a Certificate of Public Good ("CPG"), pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, to Mariah Group LLC, d/b/a Rutland Plywood Corporation ("RPC"), authorizing the installation and operation of a 400 kW biomass electric generation facility located at RPC's production facility in Rutland Town, Vermont (the "Project").

The CPG included the following requirement as Condition 1(vii):

Prior to construction, RPC shall file with the Board for review and approval a sound analysis, completed by a qualified sound expert, that estimates the increased sound levels associated with the Project. RPC shall not commence construction until the Board has reviewed and approved the results of the sound analysis; furthermore, the Board reserves the right to require mitigation measures.

On October 26, 2011, pursuant to Condition 1(vii), RPC filed a sound study for review by the parties and approval by the Board. The sound analysis filed with the Board only considered the noise from the steam turbine and did not estimate the projected incremental increase in sound levels associated with the Project. Therefore, after reviewing RPC's submission, the Board issued a memorandum, on October 28, 2011, requesting that RPC file additional information regarding sound.

On November 4, 2011, RPC filed a letter from the Resource Systems Group, Inc. ("RSG"), which performed sound monitoring at the Project site, that provided the A-weighted decibels ("dBA") levels from the existing facility and the projected dBA levels with the Project installed within the existing facility. RSG's analysis states that the installation and operation of the steam "turbine will not cause an increase in . . . existing daytime [sound] levels" at the Project site.

The Board did not receive comments from any party regarding the November 4 sound analysis filing.

The Board has reviewed, and now approves, the sound analysis filed on November 4, 2011, which indicates that the installation of the Project will not increase the existing daytime dBA levels at the Project site. However, our approval is exclusive to the daytime operation of the Project. If RPC intends to operate the Project any time prior to sunset or after sunrise, RPC must file additional information regarding any projected incremental increase in sound levels associated with the Project during such times for review and approval by the Board; furthermore, the Board continues to reserve the right to require mitigation measures.

**So ORDERED.**

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2011.

s/ Susan M. Hudson )  
 ) PUBLIC SERVICE  
s/ David C. Coen ) BOARD  
 ) OF VERMONT  
s/ John D. Burke )

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: December 6, 2011

Attest: s/ Susan M. Hudson  
Clerk of the Board

*NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)*

*Appeal of this decision to the Supreme Court of Vermont must be filed with the Clerk of the Board within thirty days. Appeal will not stay the effect of this Order, absent further Order by this Board or appropriate action by the Supreme Court of Vermont. Motions for reconsideration or stay, if any, must be filed with the Clerk of the Board within ten days of the date of this decision and order.*